

Serial No. 10/039,811

Please add the following claim.

17/ 48. A metallic body which has been compressed and consolidated from an initial powder metal form to a highly densified form, the body consisting of at least two metals, the proportions of which vary along a body dimension, one of said metals being tantalum, the body having been pressure consolidated to increase density state.

R E M A R K S

Per ¶7, the contents of claim 47 are now in base claim 32 and also in base claim 40, whereby claim 32 and dependent claims 33, 34, and 38-43 are urged to be allowable. Ishibashi is not suggestive of these claims, as recognized.

Claim 35 has been amended to include the contents of claim 32, whereby claims 35-37 are believed and urged to be allowable. The "'second body portion'" is already in claim 35, at line 3; and the subsequent limitations appear clear as to locations of M_1 and M_2 .

Claims 44-46 have been amended into independent form, whereby these claims should be allowable as per ¶6 of the Action. The cited art is not suggestive of these claims. Claim 47, per se, is

Serial No. 10/039,811

now dependent on claim 45, and should also be allowable.

Claim 48 is like claim 32 but adds the body pressure consolidated, increased density state. Ishibashi is not suggestive as his body is in a molded slurry state, as per the ABSTRACT.

Formal allowance is believed in order, and is respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,



William W. Haefliger
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 17,120
(323) 684-2707

WWH:ts

Docket 12,105-1

Serial No. 10/039,811

**Clean version of claims 32, 35, 40,
44, 46 and 47.**

B71 132. (first amendment) A metallic body
which has been compressed and consolidated from an
initial powder metal form to a highly densified form,
the body consisting of at least two metals, the
proportions of which vary along a body dimension, one
of said metals being tantalum, the consolidated
tantalum having $\langle 111 \rangle$ texture of less than about 2.8X
random.

B2 4
 35. (first amendment) A metallic body
which has been compressed and consolidated from an
initial powder metal form to a highly densified form,
the body consisting of at least two metals, the
proportions of which vary along a body dimension, one
of said metals being tantalum, and wherein the body is
elongated and has a tapered nose portion, there being a
second body portion along said dimension, the body
consisting of M_1 and M_2 in said body nose portion and
second body portion being different.

9₄₀. (first amendment) A pressure

03 consolidated powdered metal product wherein the powdered metal is distributed in successive layers, each layer having a different weight percentage of consolidated powdered metals, at least one of the powdered metals being tantalum, the consolidated tantalum having <111> texture of less than about 2.8X random.

B 4 13₄₄. (first amendment) A metallic body

which has been compressed and consolidated from an initial powder metal form to a highly densified form, the body consisting of at least two metals, the proportions of which vary along a body dimension, one of said metals being tantalum, said body having decreasing strength or ductility in each of two body dimensions, the body tapering toward a top zone, the body ductility and/or strength being greatest at said top zone.

Serial No. 10/039,811

14/45. (first amendment) A metallic body which has been compressed and consolidated from an initial powder metal form to a highly densified form, the body consisting of at least two metals, the proportions of which vary along a body dimension, one of said metals being tantalum, said body having decreasing strength or ductility in each of two body dimensions, and wherein said body comprises a conical shell.

15/46. (first amendment) A metallic body which has been compressed and consolidated from an initial powder metal form to a highly densified form, the body consisting of at least two metals, the proportions of which vary along a body dimension, one of said metals being tantalum, said body having decreasing strength or ductility in each of two body dimensions, and wherein the body has a cylindrical section and a tapered section at one end of the cylindrical section.

B4

Serial No. 10/039,811

14 16
47. (first amendment) The body of
claim ~~45~~ wherein the consolidated tantalum has $\langle 111 \rangle$
texture of less than about 2.8X random.

B 4